



Memorandum

U.S. Department
of Transportation

Federal Transit
Administration

Subject: INFORMATION: Outstanding Regional Office
Requests for Decisions or Guidance from
Headquarters

Date: SEP 1 - 1992

From: Hiram J. Walker Deputy Associate Administrator
for Grants Management

To: Area Directors
Regional Administrators

The Office of Grants Management is undertaking a review of regional requests for guidance as identified in your monthly highlight submissions. The following addresses the regional requests regarding pending decisions or guidance from Headquarters as identified in the Regional Monthly Highlights Reports received in TGM in August.

Region 2 requested final guidelines for Section 8, 1992 Planning Emphasis Areas.

- o (This response was inadvertently left off the August 4 memo) Because of the issuance of the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991, no emphasis areas were developed for FY 1992. Please continue to follow the FY 1991 emphasis areas until new ones are developed. We plan to issue new emphasis areas for FY 1993 in October, 1992.

Region 3 repeated requests for guidance concerning management consultant operating assistance eligibility, and SEPTA car retirement.

(Both issues were addressed in the August 4th memorandum sent to all area directors and regional administrators.)

To wit:

- o The issue of management consultants eligibility for planning assistance is assigned to TCC at the present time. TGM will continue to check with TCC on this issue.
- o The issue concerning the retirement of Market-Frankford cars at 35 years instead of the 40 years specified, is currently under review.

Region 9 repeated inquiry about useful life of the Section 9 Program of Projects (POP).

(This issue was addressed in the August 4th memorandum.)

To wit:

- o A POP, once approved remains an operative POP until a new POP is developed, approved by the MPO and Governor, and included in the STIP.

Region 10 repeated their inquiry about audit issues, artwork funding, and Altoona testing and Breda bus issues.

(These issues were addressed in the August 4th memorandum.)

To wit:

- o The issue requesting assistance in resolving two audit issues relating to automatic data processing has been referred to TAD at the present time. TGM-13 will continue to check with TAD on the status of this inquiry.
- o Regarding FTA Circular 9400.1 and agency policy regarding funding eligibility for artwork in FTA funded facilities, it remains FTA policy to seek a sympathetic relationship between public functional projects and artistic elements to federally assisted transit programs. FTA guidelines, as noted in C 9400.1 stipulate criteria and procedures which specifically address this issue. This circular remains in effect until rescinded.
- o With regard to the policy questions about the Altoona bus testing facility results on the Breda dual-mode bus; FTA position remains that the resolution of any problems lies with the grantee and the manufacturer. As far as procuring a copy of the test results, this report has been available from the Altoona testing facility as of 1/92. Reports may be ordered, as noted in the Technical Assistance Brief Bulletin Number 1/Spring 1992, by contacting the Altoona Bus Testing and Testing Center in Altoona, Pa. It is available to the public and costs approximately \$12.00 plus shipping.

Please update your next Monthly Highlights Reports to reflect the above responses. The September response will address August pending issues.

Attachment: Summary

CC: TGM-1 2, 10, 12, 20, 30
TCC-30
TAD
TOA-2

SUMMARY OF JULY ISSUES
RECEIVED IN TGM IN AUGUST, 1992

REGIONAL REQUESTS PENDING DECISION OR GUIDANCE FROM HEADQUARTERS

TRO	Inquiry Date	For Office	Subject	Response# Status
1	none			
2	7/31/92	TGM-10, 20, 30	Guidelines for development and review of TIP's for Sections 3, and 9 grant applications.	see memo of 8/4/92
2		TGM-10, 20, 30	Guidelines for Section 8 1992 Planning Emphasis Areas.	8/18/92
3	1982	TGM-10	Whether and under what conditions management consultants for transit authorities receiving operating assistance for transit planning should be eligible for planning assistance as well.	8/4 memo TCC TGM will continue to check
3	10/23/91	TGM-10	Retirement of Market-Frankford Cars (SEPTA)	8/4/ memo under review
4	combined 3/4 area report			
5	none			
6	no report			
7	none			
8	no report			
9	1983	TGM-10	Useful life of Section 9 Program of Projects	resolved 8/4 memo
10	3/20/90	TAD/TGM	Assistance in resolving two audit issues relating to automatic data processing	TAD TGM to check
10	1/10/91	TGM-10	FTA C 9400.1 and agency policy regarding funding eligibility for artwork in FTA funded facilities	resolved by curr. policy.
10	2/11/91	TGM-10	Altoona bus testing facility results and the Breda dual-mode bus.	resolved 8/4 memo

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